

**Morris-Adams House**  
**HA 1913**

This circa 1895 house is a simple, gable-front vernacular structure, reminiscent of the Greek Revival era earlier in the nineteenth century. As with the majority of houses in town, the slate roof of the house and long porch serve as examples of the town's dependence on the slate quarrying industry. The adjacent towns of Whiteford, Cardiff, and Delta (PA) developed primarily from the region's tremendous slate industry, which attracted workers and their families from the slate quarries of Wales. The three linear, connecting towns developed rapidly during the of the late nineteenth century "boom era", resulting in the construction of Chestnut Street in 1890 and its subsequent development.

Maryland Historical Trust  
State Historic Sites Inventory Form

MARYLAND INVENTORY OF  
HISTORIC PROPERTIES

Survey No. HA 1913

Magi No.

DOE   yes   no

**1. Name** (indicate preferred name)

historic

and/or common Morris-Adams House

**2. Location**

street & number 1624 Chestnut Street N/A not for publication

city, town Cardiff vicinity of congressional district 5th

state Maryland county Harford

**3. Classification**

Category	Ownership	Status	Present Use
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> district	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> public	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> occupied	<input type="checkbox"/> agriculture
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> building(s)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> private	<input type="checkbox"/> unoccupied	<input type="checkbox"/> commercial
<input type="checkbox"/> structure	<input type="checkbox"/> both	<input type="checkbox"/> work in progress	<input type="checkbox"/> educational
<input type="checkbox"/> site	<b>Public Acquisition</b>	<b>Accessible</b>	<input type="checkbox"/> entertainment
<input type="checkbox"/> object	<input type="checkbox"/> in process	<input type="checkbox"/> yes: restricted	<input type="checkbox"/> government
	<input type="checkbox"/> being considered	<input type="checkbox"/> yes: unrestricted	<input type="checkbox"/> industrial
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> not applicable	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> no	<input type="checkbox"/> military
			<input type="checkbox"/> museum
			<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> park
			<input type="checkbox"/> private residence
			<input type="checkbox"/> religious
			<input type="checkbox"/> scientific
			<input type="checkbox"/> transportation
			<input type="checkbox"/> other:

**4. Owner of Property** (give names and mailing addresses of all owners)

name Michael J. and Margaret Chavis

street & number 1 Bunker Court telephone no.: unlisted

city, town Grasonville state and zip code MD, 21638

**5. Location of Legal Description**

courthouse, registry of deeds, etc. Harford County Courthouse liber HDC 1104

street & number 20 W. Courtland Pl. folio 665

city, town Bel Air state MD

**6. Representation in Existing** Historical Surveys

title none

date federal state county local

depository for survey records

city, town state

## 7. Description

Survey No. HA 1913

### Condition

☐ excellent  
☒ good  
☐ fair

☐ deteriorated  
☐ ruins  
☐ unexposed

### Check one

☐ unaltered  
☒ altered

### Check one

☒ original site  
☐ moved      date of move \_\_\_\_\_

Prepare both a summary paragraph and a general description of the resource and its various elements as it exists today.

Located at the west side of Chestnut Street in the village of Cardiff, Maryland, this two-story frame house is unusual in that it is the only gable-front residence in the town. The house is a narrow three bays wide by five first-story bays and three second-story bays with a long, one-story L porch on the north and east sides. The western-most bay of the first-story north side has a small, enclosed utility projection. A single internal chimney is located centered at the rear endwall. The gable roof and porch shed roof are covered in the region's renowned slate. The house has been re-covered in light gray vinyl siding.

The main entrance is located at the south bay of the east, main facade with a multi-light door, transom, and sidelights providing the only decorative detailing to this house. The two remaining first-story bays and the three upper bays are delineated by the building's 1/1 sash windows, and two small windows are evenly spaced at the gable. The north side of the house which has the long portion of the L porch is replete with windows, occurring in the three upper bays and remaining four lower bays. Windows on these two sides are accented by black shutters. In the long south side of the house, single windows occur in the lower two western-most bays with a double window in the middle bay. The upper story has single windows in the west and middle bays.

## 8. Significance

Survey No. HA 1913

Period	Areas of Significance—Check and justify below			
<input type="checkbox"/> prehistoric	<input type="checkbox"/> archeology-prehistoric	<input type="checkbox"/> community planning	<input type="checkbox"/> landscape architecture	<input type="checkbox"/> religion
<input type="checkbox"/> 1400–1499	<input type="checkbox"/> archeology-historic	<input type="checkbox"/> conservation	<input type="checkbox"/> law	<input type="checkbox"/> science
<input type="checkbox"/> 1500–1599	<input type="checkbox"/> agriculture	<input type="checkbox"/> economics	<input type="checkbox"/> literature	<input type="checkbox"/> sculpture
<input type="checkbox"/> 1600–1699	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> architecture	<input type="checkbox"/> education	<input type="checkbox"/> military	<input type="checkbox"/> social/
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1700–1799	<input type="checkbox"/> art	<input type="checkbox"/> engineering	<input type="checkbox"/> music	<input type="checkbox"/> humanitarian
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1800–1899	<input type="checkbox"/> commerce	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> exploration/settlement	<input type="checkbox"/> philosophy	<input type="checkbox"/> theater
<input type="checkbox"/> 1900–	<input type="checkbox"/> communications	<input type="checkbox"/> industry	<input type="checkbox"/> politics/government	<input type="checkbox"/> transportation
		<input type="checkbox"/> invention		<input type="checkbox"/> other (specify)

### Specific dates

### Builder/Architect

check: Applicable Criteria: ☐ A ☐ B ☒ C ☐ D  
and/or

Applicable Exception: ☐ A ☐ B ☐ C ☐ D ☐ E ☐ F ☐ G

Level of Significance: ☐ national ☐ state ☒ local

Prepare both a summary paragraph of significance and a general statement of history and support.

This circa 1895 house is a simple, gable-front vernacular structure, reminiscent of the Greek Revival era earlier in the nineteenth century. As with the majority of houses in town, the slate roof of the house and long porch serve as examples of the town's dependence on the slate quarrying industry. The adjacent towns of Whiteford, Cardiff, and Delta (PA) developed primarily from the region's tremendous slate industry, which attracted workers and their families from the slate quarries of Wales. The three linear, connecting towns developed rapidly during the of the late nineteenth century "boom era", resulting in the construction of Chestnut Street in 1890 and its subsequent development.

Originally owned by Thomas Hawkins (farmer) in a patented land grant known as "Hawkins Chance", this land was part of the tract sold by the Hawkins family to Rowland Parry, a Welsh quarry owner who operated one of the first prominent commercial quarries in the area. It was Parry who exhibited Peach Bottom slate in the London Crystal Palace exposition in 1850, winning it international recognition as the world's finest slate. "Hawkins Chance" was divided and sold in pieces, passing through the hands of Parry's relatives and countrymen. This lot was received from Humphrey R. Lloyd, a wealthy and prominent quarry operator and land owner who was heavily involved with the development of north Cardiff in late 1800's. Unlike the adjacent tracts of land, no plat was found of this subdivided lot and its context.

## 9. Major Bibliographical References

Survey No. HA 1913

See additional sheets

## 10. Geographical Data

Acreage of nominated property .20 acres

Quadrangle name Delta

Quadrangle scale 24000

UTM References do NOT complete UTM references

A 

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Zone Easting Northing

B 

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Zone Easting Northing

C 

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D 

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E 

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F 

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G 

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H 

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### Verbal boundary description and justification

Parcel 213 on tax map 5, as provided in accompanying map

### List all states and counties for properties overlapping state or county boundaries

state	code	county	code
none			

state	code	county	code
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## 11. Form Prepared By

name/title Dianne Klair

organization Harford County Planning and Zoning date September 1995

street & number 220 S. Main Street telephone (410)638-3103

city or town Bel Air state MD

The Maryland Historic Sites Inventory was officially created by an Act of the Maryland Legislature to be found in the Annotated Code of Maryland, Article 41, Section 181 KA, 1974 supplement.

The survey and inventory are being prepared for information and record purposes only and do not constitute any infringement of individual property rights.

return to: Maryland Historical Trust  
Shaw House  
21 State Circle  
Annapolis, Maryland 21401  
(301) 269-2438

MAILED  
D-400  
100 COLUMBIA BLVD  
CROWNSVILLE, MD 21032-2026  
SEP 1995

PS-2746

## MORRIS-ADAMS HOUSE

## Title Search

HDC 1104/665	September 17, 1979	Grantor: Donald L. and Joyce Y. Rugemer Grantee: Michael J. and Margaret J. Chavis Granted: town lot of 32 perches with improvements
HDC 911/233	October 27, 1972	Grantor: Paul L. and Dorothy Glackin Grantee: Donald L. and Joyce Y. Rugemer Granted: same, fronting Chestnut 50'
GRG 658/58	October 1, 1964	Grantor: Samuel J. and Ella Adams Grantee: Paul L. and Dorothy M. Glackin Granted: same
DGW 178/65	April 3, 1922	Grantor: Charles W. and M. Alice Lytle Grantee: Samuel J. and Ella Adams Granted: same, lot is 50' by 175'
WSF 108/207	March 26, 1903	Grantor: S. Walter and Ella V. Gladden Grantee: Charles W. and M. Alice Lytle Granted: same
WSF 104/55	January 25, 1902	Grantor: Jane H. and Humphrey R. Lloyd Grantee: Isaac E. Morris Granted: town lot of 32 perches, no improvements mentioned Confirmatory deed of earlier deed ALJ 70/326
WSF 104/54	January 13, 1902	Grantor: Charles Stewart Grantee: S. Walter Gladden Granted: same, for \$800.00
WSF 100/353	November 7, 1900	Grantor: Isaac E. and Lourena Morris Grantee: Martha Steward Granted: same, for \$700.00
ALJ 70/326	March 19, 1891	Grantor: Jane H. and Humphrey R. Lloyd Grantee: Isaac E. Morris Granted: town lot of 32 perches for \$125.00 Part of larger tract to Humphrey R. Lloyd
ALJ 25/346	April 11, 1871	Grantor: Richard Hughes and wife Grantee: Jane H. Lloyd (daughter) Granted: 2 parcels of "Hawkins Chance", 1). 5 acres 105 perches and 2). 2 acres 1 perch (see ALJ 9/29)

ALJ 9/30	May 29, 1857	Grantor: Richard Hughes et al. Grantee: John and Ellin Parry Granted: 8 acres 35 perches of "Hawkins Chance" for \$500.00
ALJ 9/29	May 29, 1857	Grantor: John Parry Grantee: Richard Hughes Granted: 2 parcels of "Hawkins Chance", 1). 5 acres 105 perches and 2). 2 acres 1 perch
HDG 36/424	July 27, 1850	Grantor: Ro(w)land and Anne Parry Grantee: John Parry and Richard Hughes Granted: 3 1/2 acres of "Hawkins Chance" for \$350.00
HDG 36/215	February 5, 1850	Grantor: Rowland Perry Grantee: John Perry and Richard Hughes Granted: 12 acres of "Hawkins Chance" for \$600.00
HDG 36/214 (indenture)	February 5, 1850	Grantor: Benjamin Williams Grantee: John Perry et al. Granted: 12 acres of "Hawkins Chance" for \$200.00
HDG 36/212	January 22, 1850	Grantor: Archibald A. and Nancy Hawkins Grantee: Rowland Perry (Parry) Granted: part of "Hawkins Chance" for \$850.00, acreage unknown
HDG 34/492	February 9, 1849	Grantor: Edward Proctor et al. Grantee: Archabald A. Hawkins Granted: "Hawkins Chance", being part of Thomas Hawkins landholdings; 74 acres 5 perches
HD 14/336	August 3, 1831	Grantor: Isaac Hawkins, heir to Thomas Hawkins Grantee: Thomas Proctor, heir to Edward Proctor Granted: The eighth part of land tracts "Hawkins Chance", "Williams Birthright", Mount Pleasant", and "Montgomerys Delight". The four tracts contain 188 acres total. No mention of "eighth part" acreage.
Land Tract, Patented	After March 1774, when Harford est.	"Hawkins Chance", tract of 74 acres 5 perches granted to Thomas Hawkins. Located on the Maryland and Pennsylvania line at the north end of present day Cardiff. Divided, sold, and reworked often.

## BIBLIOGRAPHY

Common Houses in America's Small Towns: The Atlantic Seaboard to the Mississippi Valley, John A. Jakle, Robert W. Bastian, and Douglas K. Meyer. 1989.

Land Records, Harford County Courthouse.

Delta Centennial, A souvenir book from the 1953 centennial celebration which was organized by the Delta-Cardiff Fire Company.

History of York County, Gibson. 1880.

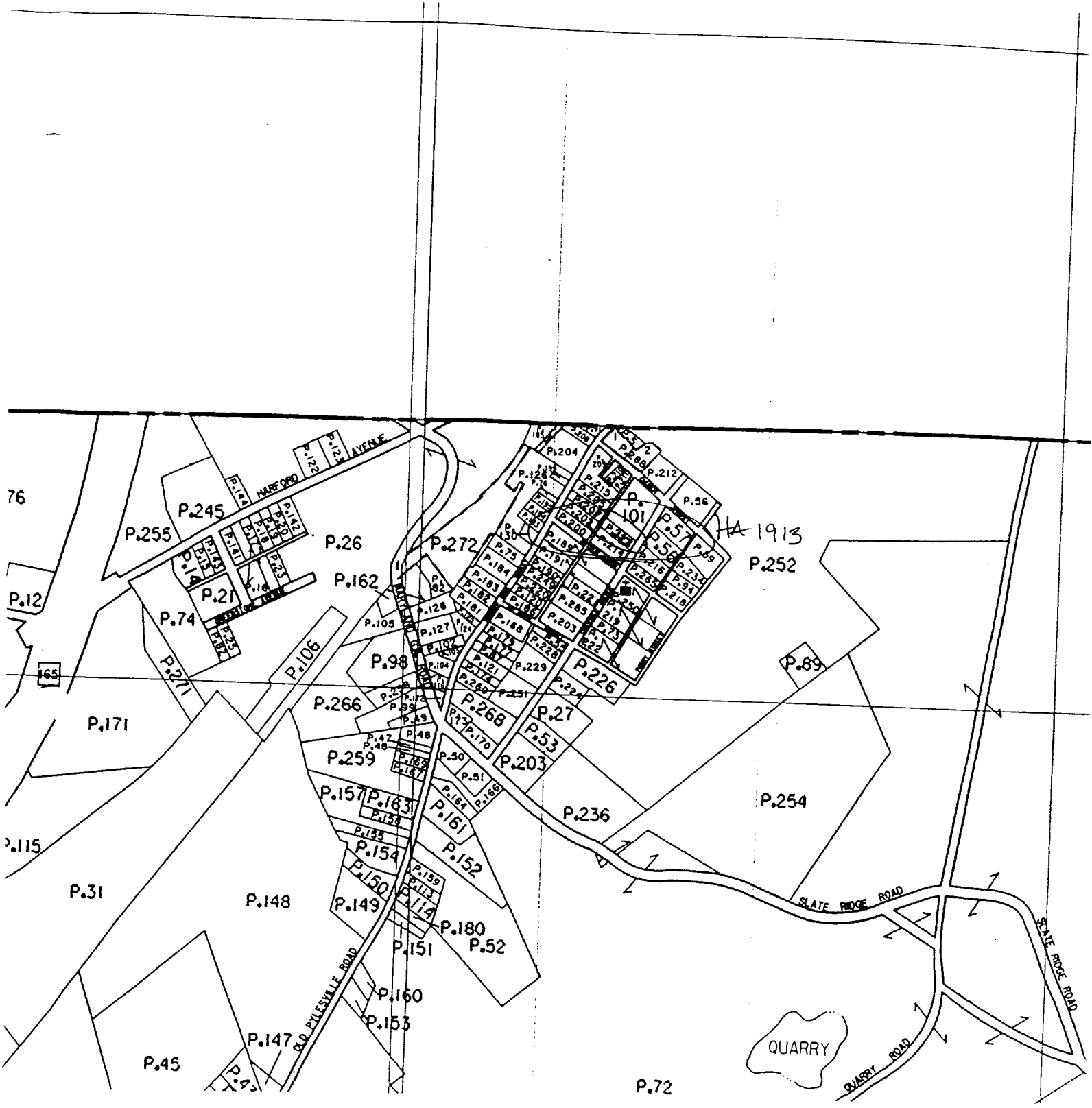
Conversation with Mrs. Darcy Lloyd, April 11, 1995.

Conversations with Mrs. Marion Scaborough, June 20, June 22, July 25, and August 1, 1995 regarding Parry family history.

Harford County Historical Society Archives.

Various conversations with area residents for a contextual history of the inventory structures.





HA-1913

Morris-Adams House  
Parcel 213, Tax Map 5

150 000 FEET  
(PA.)

P E A C H B O

4399

4398

FILE FORKS 3 MI  
UNCLATION 0 6 MI

33 PENNSYLVANIA  
MARYLAND

32 YORK CO  
HARFORD CO

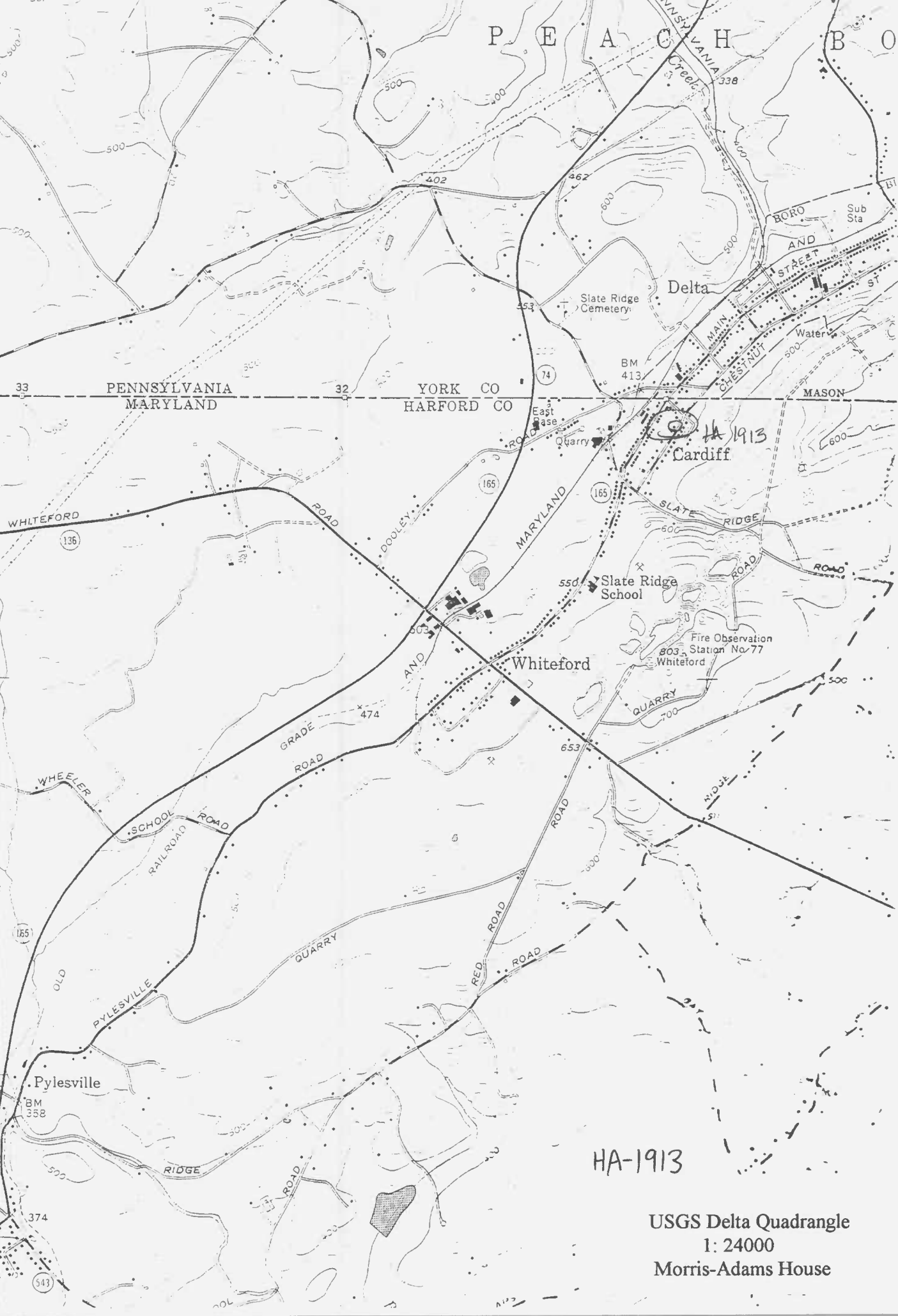
42'30"

4396

4395

5763 III NW  
(FAWN GROVE)

FILE 6 4 MI  
NER 2 1 MI



HA-1913

USGS Delta Quadrangle  
1: 24000  
Morris-Adams House



4/1 1913

MARRS - Adams House  
Hartford Court, Maryland  
Evanston, Ill.

3/45

Maryland, SHIP

~~Chris Weeks, Hartford Court, Maryland, } "Zoning Dept~~  
View Southwest from Chestnut Street

1/3



Hb 1913

— Lamer House  
Harford County, Maryland  
Lamer Road

95 Maryland, SHP  
~~Collected from 1880 to 1890 - Sept. 17 February 1891~~  
View west from Chestnut Street

2  
1/2



HA 1913

Memis - Adams House  
Hartford County, Maryland  
Drammer & Co.

3/95 Maryland - HPC  
~~Chris West, Hartford County, Planning & Zoning Dept.~~  
View Northwest from Chestnut Street

3  
28